



MICHIGAN
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. Box 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

**THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
FINANCIAL LIABILITY REFORM**

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

12:00 p.m.

Room 327 House Office Building

The House Standing Committee on Financial Liability Reform was called to order by **Representative Pat Somerville**, Chair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Somerville, Leuthesuer, Farrington, LaFontaine, Lyons, Poleski, Wittenberg, Faris and Chirkun.

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: None.

Representative Farrington moved to adopt the minutes of the **January 28, 2015**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

Chair Somerville laid **HB 4059** before the committee:

HB 4059 (Hughes) Retirement; public school employees; retirant employed at a reporting unit under certain circumstances without forfeiting retirement allowance or health care coverage; eliminate sunset.

TESTIMONY

Representative Hughes, sponsor of HB 4059, explained her bill to the committee.

John Severson, superintendent for the Muskegon Intermediate School District (ISD), and **Coni Sullivan**, assistant superintendent for Kent (ISD), testified in support of the bill.

Kathy Merry, representing Wayne Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA), testified in support of the bill and introduced Dr. Paul Salah.

Dr. Paul Salah, associate superintendent for Wayne RESA, testified and submitted written testimony in support of the bill.

Lisa Hansknecht, representing Oakland Schools, testified and submitted written testimony in support of the bill.

Rebecca Rocho, representing the South Central Education Policy Consortium (SCEPC) and Calhoun (ISD), testified and submitted written testimony in support of the bill.

Emily Laidlaw, representing the Michigan Association of School Administrators and the Michigan Association of Special Education Administrators, submitted written testimony in support the bill and introduced Dr. Eric Hoppstock.

Dr. Eric Hoppstock, assistant superintendent, representing the Berrien (RESA), testified and submitted written testimony in support of the bill.

The following people submitted a card but did not wish to speak:

S. Mark Guastella, Executive Director, representing the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel, supports the bill.

Don Olendorf from Karoub Associates, representing the School Equity Caucus, supports the bill.

Paul Liabenow, representing the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association (MEMSPA), supports the bill.

Don Wotruba, representing the Michigan Association of School Boards, supports the bill.

Chair Somerville opened the floor for a presentation from the Michigan Department of Treasury.

PRESENTERS:

Mary Martin, Director, Bureau of State and Authority Finance, Treasury

Rachel Eubanks, Director, Public Finance, RW Baird & Company

Howard Ryan, Legislative Affairs Director, Treasury

Mary Martin, Rachel Eubanks and Howard Ryan gave an overview of the *State of Michigan State Debt Overview*. A handout was submitted to the committee. Questions and discussion followed.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Representative Pat Somerville, Chair
House Standing Committee on Financial Liability Reform
Malika Abdul-Basir
Committee Clerk
517-373-7256
55 Minutes